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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, the 5th March 1959.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

National Extension Service Blocks

* 95 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the number of National Extension Service Blocks with their names which have been opened and which are proposed to be opened during the year 1958–59?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : The number of blocks taken up so far is 176. A statement [a] showing their names is placed on the table of the House.

Another statement [b] showing separately the 11 Stage I and the 20 Pre-Extension blocks taken up during 1958–59 and the 10 Stage II blocks that resulted from bifurcation of the existing blocks during the same year is also placed on the table of the House.

No further allotment of blocks is proposed for this year.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I know whether the Government have got a priority list for the purpose of choosing the National Extension Service Blocks and taking them up one after another or they go by the representation made by the local people?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Generally, according to the needs of the people we choose the blocks. We choose backward areas and we also choose contiguous areas. It is not possible to start a block in an isolated place. These are the considerations that weigh with the Government.

Midday meals

* 96 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Miniter for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Government and aided educational institutions (colleges and schools) where proper enclosure is provided for pupils to take their midday meals;

(*b*) the number of institutions where no such provision is made; and

(*c*) the steps proposed to be taken to provide enclosure where no such provision is made?

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a Printed as Appendix I on page 160 infra.
Printed as Appendix II on pages 161–163 infra.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not have figures. The time and labour involved in collecting the particulars for answering the question are not commensurate with the purpose served.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : In the absence of tiffin sheds, will the Hon. Minister enlighten the House on where the boys and girls are to take meals in schools and colleges?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Perhaps under the greenwood trees. But most of the schools are now trying to provide tiffin sheds wherever possible.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : As I find that there is a provision of Rs. 2·10 lakhs in the Budget before us for construction of lunch and tiffin rooms for the office staff in the Revenue Department in the districts, will the Government make similar provision for educational institutions also?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The question is with regard to aided educational institutions. The initiative will have to come from the managements.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What is the procedure as far as Government institutions are concerned? As the position is the same even there, may I appeal to the Hon. Minister to issue suitable instructions for adequate arrangements being made in our schools and colleges for this purpose?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : In Government institutions, it is always kept in mind. In colleges, I think, there are sufficient facilities. But I cannot give the same assurance with reference to secondary schools. Certainly, I shall keep this in mind when we take up the further programme of providing amenities to schools.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I know what kind of food is given—sambar bath or curd bath?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : This is not with reference to the midday meals programme.

Single-teacher schools

* 97 *Q.*—SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have sanctioned an establishment of 900 single-teacher schools in the State;

(*b*) if so, the number of single-teacher schools proposed to be established in each district; and

(*c*) the financial assistance, if any, given by the Centre for the purpose?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House.

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 164 *infra*.